THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The post-based roster was introduced to implement the Supreme Court decision in R.K. Sabharwal case.

(c) and (d) In the course of implementation of the post-based roster, some shortages and excesses have been found due to the operation of the previous roster, and these are being adjusted against future appointments in the new 200 point roster in accordance with DoPT guidelines.

Loan to Farmers against Crops

†*130. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a new scheme to provide loans to the farmers against their crops in order to provide relief to them;

(b) if so, the outlines of the scheme; and

(c) by when this scheme is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) No such new scheme is under the consideration of the Government. As per the extant guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on the priority sector advances, in addition to crop loans, advances upto Rs. 1 lakh can be sanctioned by banks to farmers against the pledge/ hypothecation of agricultural produce (including warehouse receipts) for a period not exceedings 6 month, where farmers were given crop loans for raising the produce provided borrowers draw credit from one bank.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.